

ADDITIONAL FEE

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R E M A R K S

The Office Action issued June 1, 2004 has been received and its contents have been carefully considered.

Applicant has canceled the various portions of the Preliminary Amendment which, the Examiner states, contain new matter. Applicant has also canceled claim 14 which is said to contain subject matter not described in the specification.

The specification has been reviewed and amended on pages 7-10 to remove certain obvious informalities. For example, on page 7, the reference numerals 6 and 8 for the inflow openings have been interchanged to correspond with Fig. 1 of the drawings.

Finally, all of the claims have been amended in the manner kindly suggested by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action.

The provisional allowance of claims 2-4 and 7-13 is noted with appreciation. However, for the reasons given

below, it is believed that claim 1, as now amended, distinguishes patentably over the references of record.

Claim 1, as originally presented, stands rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Haswell et al. and Nugent. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Haswell et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,487,393 discloses a urine collection receptacle with an inlet and a temperature indicating device. The most important difference between the present invention and Haswell et al. is that Haswell et al. does not have a liquid transporting means which transports the liquid through capillary action. The liquid transporting means is only a chamber or a channel in the receptacle. In contrast, according to the invention the liquid transporting means, for example a foil paper, connects the inlet opening with the indicators. Since the indicators are mounted on an opaque indicator holder, it is necessary, that the liquid transporting means wraps or encompasses or embraces the indicator holder, so that the indicators may be seen through the viewing window.

In the U.S. Patent No. 4,827,944 to Nugent, there is also no liquid transporting means which wraps the indicator holder or the indicators. In the device of Nugent, the

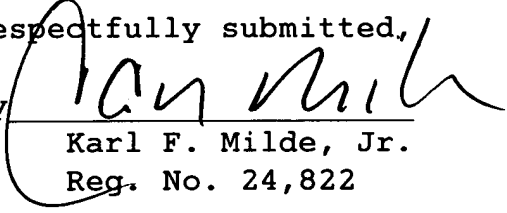
sample urine contacts directly the indicators 22 at the openings 16 in the sidewall of the receptacle so that a color change of the indicators may be observed through the viewing window. There is no liquid transporting means wrapping the indicators; see especially column 2, lines 21 to 41 of the patent. According to Nugent, the indicators are covered by a transparent film and not attached to a separate indicator holder as with the present invention.

Accordingly, claim 1 is believed to distinguish patentably over both of these references.

Since all of the formal issues raised by the Examiner have been complied with, and since claim 1, as amended, distinguishes patentably over the references of record, this application is believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. A formal Notice of Allowance is accordingly respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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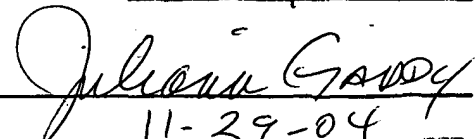
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14

By

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